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PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

Afghanistan, Australia, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mongolia, Morocco, Peru* and Ukraine: draft resolution

Need to adopt efficient international measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, 1/ adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, which requires effective measures against female infanticide, harmful child labour, the sale of children and their organs, child prostitution, child pornography and other forms of sexual abuse,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989,

Recalling also the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children 2/ and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, 2/ adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

1/ Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

2/ See A/45/625, annex.

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/74 of 5 March 1992, 3/ by which the Commission adopted the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography,

Recalling its resolution 48/156 of 20 December 1993,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/90 of 9 March 1994, 4/

Recognizing the enormous efforts made in this field by the United Nations, particularly the United Nations Children's Fund, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,

Deeply concerned by the persistence of the practice of the use of children for prostitution, sexual abuse and other activities, which may also often constitute exploitation of child labour,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of the practice of the sale of children and other practices, which may be linked to related disappearances, illegal adoptions, abandonment, kidnapping and abductions for commercial purposes,

Bearing in mind the different causes that influence the emergence and persistence of these special circumstances, including in particular poverty, unemployment, hunger, natural disaster, intolerance, exploitation of child labour and armed conflicts, and their harmful effects on the rights of the child,

Recognizing the existence of a market which encourages the increase of such criminal practices against children,

Taking into account the necessity that the Special Rapporteur be assisted by the cooperation of Governments and provided with information on this matter,

Considering that it is necessary to redouble efforts at the national and international level to promote and protect the rights of children all over the world,

1. Welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 5/

3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2 (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

4/ Ibid., 1994, Supplement No. 4 (E/1994/24), chap. II, sect. A.

5/ A/49/478.

2. Expresses deep concern at the alarming increase in violations of the rights of the child worldwide, in particular the growing number of incidents related to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

3. Urges Governments to continue searching for solutions, as well as ways and means of enhancing international cooperation to eradicate such aberrant practices;

4. Expresses its support for the work of the Special Rapporteur appointed by the Commission on Human Rights to examine all over the world the question of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and urges him to continue his efforts in the discharge of his mandate;

5. Urges all Governments to collaborate with the Special Rapporteur and to assist him by providing him with all the requested information;

6. Calls upon those States that have not done so to become parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and calls upon the States parties to the Convention to implement national measures aimed at fulfilling the provisions of the Convention;

7. Commends the establishment by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1994/9 of 22 July 1994 of an open-ended working group responsible for elaborating, as a matter of priority and in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, guidelines for a possible draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as establishing the basic measures needed for the prevention and eradication of those abnormal practices,

8. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the working group to Governments, the Special Rapporteur and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned;

9. Invites the Special Rapporteur, within the framework of his mandate, to continue giving attention to the economic, social, legal and cultural factors affecting these phenomena;

10. Requests the Special Rapporteur to submit a provisional report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur and the working group of the Commission on Human Rights with every necessary assistance;

12. Decides to consider this question at its fiftieth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".